Benefit of P. D. S. to the poor house hold

1041. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHAR-MA; Will the Minister of FOOD **AND** CIVIL SUPPLIES (be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that a vast majority of poor households of the country do not get any benefit from the public distribution system as in operation at present and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to extend the same facilities to this chunk of the population; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CI-VIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN); (a) to (c) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is universal in character and is implemented to make available certain key essential commodities *viz,* rice, wheat levy sugar, kerosene, imported edible **oil,,** soft coke etc. to the people including the weaker and vulnerable sections of the population, at reasonable prices.

Efforts are, nevertheless, made *on* a continual basis by the Union and State Governments/UT Administrations to strengthen and streamline its working.

Memorial for Shrimati Vijayalakshmi Pandit

10402. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mrs. Vijaylakshmi Pandit played a prominent role in the country's political "scenario for over six decades;

(b) whether Government propose to make some memorial in her momry **as** a token of her contributions to buildfi modern India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present there is no proposal under the consideration of this Ministry to build a memorial for Smt. Vijaylakshmi Pandit at New Delhi.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of New Co-operative suger Mills in Maharashtra

1043. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state.

(a) what are the details of the proposals received by Government for setting up of Co-operative Sugar Fac_ tories in Maharashtra since the beginning of 1990;

(b) whether these proposals have been processed;

(c) which of these proposals have been accepted; and

(d) by when the remaining proposals ae likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOCI D AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN). (a) to (c) As per the information available with the Department of Food, 153 proposas **received** for setting up of Cooperative Sugar Factories in Maharashtra since the beginning of 1990 till 17-12-1990 are still pending. Details of the aforesaid proposals are given in the statement. *{See* Appendix CLVI, Annex-jre; No. 22]

(d) The Licensing Policy for Sugar Industry for the 8th Five Year Plan **is** under review of the Government and all pending proposals would be considered in that light.